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TERMS OF THE DAILY:

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SLACK A LITTLE.

Slack a little! Slack a little,
Darling wife,
Why such breathless haste and hurry
All day life?
Slack the waste of thy striving,
Ere too late
Tell these unmerciless Care and Labor,
Just to wait.

Slack a little! Slack a little,
Busy maid!
Slack thy rubbing and thy scrubbing,
Drop thy sabot!
Minister thy blessings lowly,
And the longer
Blind lover's untold precious tendrils
All the stronger.

Slack a little! Slack a little,
Weary feet!
'Tis a thorny road you're treading,
Death to greet!
Slack your quick and fearless stepping,
Spare your strength
Ye the golden gates of heaven
Shall tread at length!

Slack a little! Slack a little,
Precious Heart!
Slack the lover of thy throbbing,
Ere we part.
Thrill not thus with every sorrow,
As you say
Treasuring like an angel lyre
Forever
Strains for higher and holy themes:
Slack thy sorrow
Heaven there raptured, as themes may wake
Perhaps to-morrow!

Slack a little! Time how fleeting,
Ask not why
To my heart's long cherished treasure
Let me cling.
Go to Morth, and from his chalice
Take the pleasure!
Pilfer Wealth and from his palace,
Take his treasure
Why such haste my night to bring?
Slack, O Time, thy sombre and wing!

Slack a little! Slack a little,
Death, O death!
Vain thy swift and panting haste,
All out of breath!
See! she flies from thy approaching—
Thou hast no sting!
Clasp her! In the cold embracing
She will sting!

Slack, O Death! how sure to by less
Thou wast conquered on the Cross.

AN OLD HAND.

Fine veined and wrinkled, knuckly and brown,
The end old hand in a sewing mine;
I bend above it, and looking down,
I study its aspect, one by line.

This hand has clasped a thousand hands
That long I have known so as a saving thrill;
So me love moulders in forest, in lands—
Some in the grave, and on the hill.

Clasped a mother's hand, in the day
When it was little and soft and white—
Mother, who kissed it, and went away.
To rest until the waking in God's light.

Clasped a lover's hand, years agone,
Who called away a soul left her in tears;
Under Sahara's cloud of sun,
Its bones have whitened years and years.

Clasped the hand of a good man true,
Who held it only a and few asleep,
And woke no more and no more knew
How long that impress this would keep.

Clasped so many a many [illegible]
That still remembered living still,
Or can answer it pressure kind and true!
So many that is unmoved and still!

Cleared, at last this hand gw own;
And mine will go and mine [illegible]
Will any clasp it why, I am gone?
In vain I study this hand to learn!

THE REWARD OF COURTESY.

A True Account.

A few years since, on a radiant spring afternoon, two men, who from their conversation appeared to be foreigners, stopped before the gate of one of the large workshops in Philadelphia for the manufacture of locomotive engines. Entering a small office, the older of the two men inquired of the superintendent in attendance if he would permit him to inspect the works.

"You can pass in and look about if you please," said the Superintendent, vexed apparently in being interrupted in the perusal of his newspaper. He scanned the two strangers more closely. They were respectably but plainly clad, and evidently made no pretensions to official dignity of any kind.

"Is there any one who can show us over the establishment and explain matters to us?" asked Mr. Wolf, the elder of the two strangers.

"You must pick your own way, gentlemen," replied the Superintendent; "we are all too busy to attend to every party that comes along. I'll thank you not to interrupt the workmen by asking questions."

It was not so much the matter as the manner of the reply, that was *off nsive* to Mr. Wolf, and which, coupled with it was spoken with a certain official assumption of superiority, mingled with contempt for the visitors, indicating a haughty and selfish temper on the part of the speaker.

"I think we will not trouble you," said Mr. Wolf, bowing and taking his companion's arm, they passed out.

"If there is anything unlike, it is incivility," said Mr. Wolf when they were in the street. "I do not blame the man for not wishing to show us over his establishment; he is, doubtless, much annoyed and interrupted by many heedless visitors, but he might have dismissed us with courtesy. He might have sent us away better content with a gracious refusal, than an ungracious consent.

"Perhaps," said the other stranger, "we shall be better treated here;" and they stopped before another workshop of a similar kind. They were received by a brisk little man, the head clerk, apparently, who, in reply to their request to be shown over the establishment, replied, "O, yes! come with me, gentlemen. This way." So saying, he hurried along the area, strewed with iron, brass, broken and rusty wheels, old machinery, old boilers and cylinders into the principal workshops.

Here without stopping to explain any one thing, he led these strangers along with the evident intention of getting rid of them as soon as possible. When they passed where the workmen were riveting the external casings of a locomotive boiler, looked at his watch, tapped his foot against an iron tube, and showed other signs of impatience, whereupon, Mr. Wolf remarked: "We will not detain you any longer, sir," and with his friend took leave.

"This man is an improvement on the other," said Mr. Wolf, "but all the civility he has is on the surface; it does not come from the heart. We must look further."

The strangers walked on for nearly half a mile in silence, when one of them pointed to an humble sign, with a picture of a locomotive engine with a train of cars underneath. It overtopped a small building not more than one story high, communicating with a yard and work-shop. "Look," said the observer. "Here is a machinist whose name is not on our list."

"Probably it was thought too small a concern for our purpose," said his companion.

"Nevertheless, let us try," said Mr. Wolf.

They entered and found at the desk a middle-aged man, whose somewhat grimy aspect and apron around his waist, showed that he divided his labor between the workshop and the counting room.

"We want to look over your works, if you have no objections," said Mr. Wolf.

"It will give me great pleasure to show you all that is to be seen," said the mechanic with a pleased alacrity, ringing a bell telling the boy who entered to take charge of the office.

He then led the way, and explained to the strangers the whole process of constructing a locomotive engine. He showed them how the various parts of the machinery were manufactured, and patiently answered all their questions. He told them of an improved mode of tubing boilers, by which the power of generating steam was increased, and showed with what care he provided for security from bursting.

Two hours passed rapidly away. The strangers were delighted with the intelligence displayed by the mechanic, and with his frank, attentive, and unsuspicious manners.

"Here is a man who loves his profession so well that he takes pleasure in explaining its mysteries to all who can understand them," said Mr. Wolf.

"I am afraid that we have given you a great deal of trouble," said the other stranger.

"Indeed, gentlemen, I have enjoyed your visit," said the mechanic, "and I shall be glad to see you again."

"Perhaps you may," said Mr. Wolf, and the strangers departed.

Five months afterwards as the mechanic, whose means were quite limited, sat in his office meditating how he might best get business by the side of such large establishments as were his competitors, the two strangers entered. He gave them a hearty welcome, handed chairs, and all sat down.

"We come," said Mr. Wolf, with a proposition to you from the Emperor of Russia, to visit St. Petersburg."

"From the Emperor? Impossible!"

"Here are our credentials."

"But gentlemen," said the now agitated mechanic, "what object have I in such a far land. They never received by a brisk little man, the head clerk, apparently, who, in reply to their request to be shown over the establishment, replied, "O, yes! come with me, gentlemen. This way." So saying, he hurried along the area, strewed with iron, brass, broken and rusty wheels, old machinery, old boilers and cylinders into the principal workshops.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, January 12, 1867.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1867.

AN interesting and valuable statement of the Petroleum trade of Pittsburgh in 1866, will be found in our commercial department to-day.

PARTIES in New York deeply interested in the impeachment question, and believing that affirmative action would, for the moment, at least, have a depressing effect on finances, have, it is said, convinced themselves that Congress does not intend impeachment.

IT is stated that the message of the President vetoing the District Suffrage Bill, was assented to by all the Cabinet, except MR. STANTON, who read a brief opinion in favor of its constitutionality, and recommending its approval. It is said, also, that General GRANT, who was present by invitation, also gave the bill his approval, which is doubtful.

THE Senatorial canvass in Illinois has developed the fact, that the main features of the Civil Rights Bill, the paternity of which has been accorded to Senator TRUMBULL, were communicated to him in a letter, now published, written by General JOHN M. PALMER, then in command at Louisville. General PALMER is now Senator TRUMBULL'S principal competitor for the Senate, and the point thus made in his favor is thought to be a strong one. At any rate, it is an interesting passage in the history of recent events.

IS THE PUBLIC WILL SUPREME?

The main objection that we raise against the late decision of the Supreme Court, so far as it applies to the general political questions of the country, is, that it does not give due recognition and weight to the great national events of the past six years, nor to their unavoidable bearing on the Constitution of the country. The doctrine of State rights, as held by politicians of the secession school, has been declared by the voice of the people to be an unsound one, not admissible in the government of this nation. The decision has been made at the tribunal of war, whither the friends of this doctrine took it, and not the ballot box. Henceforward, till the people change their record on the point, any interpretation or application of law that conforms to the exploded and rejected view of Sate rights, must be, *ipse facto*, opposed to the decision of the public mind.

The same is true also of the old provisions of the Constitution and laws in relation to slavery. To apply the Constitution, in cases involving this subject, in the same way that it might have been and was applied before the rebellion, would be manifestly wrong and must lead to wrong decisions. The precedents, furnished by former decisions, are utterly inapplicable, except upon the hypothesis that the conditions of the country, the laws and the institution are the same as when these precedents were established, which is contrary to the fact. The Abolition of slavery has rendered inoperative all laws and State laws, whether organic or statute, which conflict with the fixed fact, that slavery is no more. On this ground is the fugitive slave law a nullity, and on this ground we raise a strong objection to the representation of three fifths of the *late* slaves, by the white people surrounding them in the several districts, although the provision of the Constitution was explicit on this point while they were slaves.

But it has been intimated that the Supreme Court decision covers, or if not, contemplates covering, a wider ground, going even to the process by which slavery was legally abolished, and setting it also aside. We have always been of the opinion, that the amendment of the National and State Constitutions, so as to formally abolish slavery by law, was a superfluity, save as to the local exceptions made in the Executive Proclamation of January 1st, 1863. It was this that abolished slavery, to the extent named, and this act is not subject to the review of the Supreme Court, any more than any other strategic measures for suppressing the rebellion are. The Constitution expressly provides that a person shall "not be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law." But, tens and hundreds of thousands were so deprived during the insurrection. Are all these fit cases for judicial review, and for decisions adverse to the grand decision of the war? Has the Executive power of the Government been committing crimes of rapine and murder, by taking and destroying life and property, without process of law, and contrary to the constitution? We think this such an absurd sentiment would place us after the events, on the same ground with Mr. BUCHANAN before,—with no Constitutional means of resisting or of suppressing insurrection.

The voice of the people has put in abeyance all the constitutional and statute laws, touching slavery, that are inconsistent with the fact that it is an abolished institution. Of course all subsidiary laws go out of use along with it. And all old precedents and decisions of the Supreme Court are wholly inapplicable to the question. Should this Court pass the proclamation of freedom to the slaves, it might as well decide on the propriety of the seige of Vicksburg, SHERMAN'S march to the sea, or the destruction of life at Gettysburg.

It will be seen, then, that according to the views enunciated, the people of the United States have, in some matters, got ahead of their old Constitution, and have taken up the process, provided for in itself, for amending it, so as to adapt it to the existing onditions. And it must be admitted that since the mind and will of the people made the Constitution at first, they are competent both to know when it needs to be amended, and also to suit it by amendment, to their condition and necessities. And when thus amended, it is independent of court decisions that rest their whole force on precedents established under an entirely different order of things. There is no more reason why courts should take ground against the present will of the people, as expressed in amendments to the Constitution, than there is why executive officers should be required to enforce obsolete and repealed laws, that no longer express the will of the people. The condition is changed, and the law is changed or must be, to conform to the condition. The new condition, approved by the sovereign people, cannot be judged by obsolete and inapplicable laws an precedents.

TIMES IN CITY AND COUNTRY.

There are two literary productions, neither of them voluminous, of which we should like to see new editions, with notes and comments, and ample illustrations. Whenever the competent writer shall appear, to do the editing, and the enterprising publisher to issue the works, we stand ready to recommend them to public acceptance with all our powers of argument and persuasion. To keep clear of confusion, we name but one of them in this article. It is the ancient Greek Fable of the City Mouse and the Country Mouse.

The notions that prevail about the comparative advantages of life in the country and in the city, are not materially different now from what they were in earlier ages. They are as diverse, and embrace as great and as many errors. Poetry has decided, in full court, in favor of the country, modern bards agreeing with the ancient. So also the popular sentiment runs in the same direction, as appears from the use of the old adage, "GOD made the country, and man made the town," or as it is presented more smoothly but with not less severe implications by SHENSTONE:

"God, the first Garden made;
And the first city, Cain."

But still, people crowd into cities, as if every one of them was a city of refuge from all the ills that flesh is heir to. The tendency in this direction appeared to be strong before the war, but it is developed much more strongly since.

To this, no doubt a number of causes have contributed. The social habits formed during army life and the relish for activity and excitement, render farm life too dull and tedious to be borne. The intermission of laborious habits, and the suspension of old associations, tend also to make the pursuits of rural industry less attractive than those of the city. The high price of wages, under the pressure for labor during the war, and which unavoidably continues for a time after the war, has exerted a powerful influence in drawing not only the farmers from their fields, but mechanics from their town and village shops.

While business is lively, the anticipation of many may be realized. But a dullness of trade, a stagnation in manufactures is inevitably felt in its first and severest pressure in cities. The expenses of living are usually proportionate to the prices of wages, and when these stop, the effect is felt immediately by many, and by some is felt painfully, if they have lived up to their income in the best times, and have made no provision for the worst.

For years back, and particularly for the past two or three years, the current of population has been setting too much from the country to the cities. We do not give full accord to the poetical delineations of country life, nor to the political doctrine that cities are sores on the body politic, but it is certain that no country can thrive if its rural labors be undervalued, and its cities be deemed the only localities for honorable and lucrative employment; or where this sentiment prevails to such an extent as to occasion a constant and large drain of the intelligent, energetic young men from agricultural pursuits, into the great cities of our land.

THE FARMER.

We do not conceive of the farmer, in our country, as bearing any resemblance to the serfs or to the common peasantry of Europe. We may have some rough specimens of humanity among them, but the class of American farmers are not behind the men of other callings, in intelligence, moral worth and becoming manners. We like the name that is commonly assigned to the class better than any other. Agriculturist sounds too fanciful, Planter smacks too strongly of associations with Sambo, besides being too restricted in its signification, and rarely used among us. Farmer is the right word to designate the profession. We know of no word that suggests ideas of more respectability, independence and comfort than the word farmer.

But it is not the idea of a mere peasant, in smock-frock and fustian pants, of a man that knows how to work and knows nothing else. Our notion of a farmer is not so remote from the reality. He usually owns the land that he lives on and cultivates. The stock upon it is his. He works, but he also finds time for some mental improvement and enjoyme it in reading. A few useful and well chosen books and a newspaper are found in his house, for the use of himself and family. As soon as his circumstances will admit of it, the claims of taste will begin to be regarded, in the arrangements of the farm, in the location and appearance of buildings, in the fences, in the planting of trees and shrubbery, in the means of conveyance to market and church, in the quality and keeping of the live stock. Besides all this will the American farmer be a patron of education, affording to his children such means of improvement as are within his reach, educating them to be useful and contented in their position and employment, and not, as is too often done, making their brief season of fancy schooling the occasion of permanent discontent and unhappiness at home.

As a class, the American farmers are the main reliance of the country, not more for the means of subsistence, than for the support of our Government. Intelligence and probity in this class make our liberties secure. Public and political measures are canvassed by them as coolly and fairly as by any class in the country. Their profession furnishes its proportion of our legislators and public officers, and the interests of justice, humanity and morals are indebted largely to the same, for their maintenance and advancement. We want to see the profession honored, we want to have every farmer honor it by meeting all its claims, those of intelligence and taste as well as those of labor.

DEVELOPMENT AND SPECULATION.

It was rather equivocal praise that a man gave his two boys, in saying, that if shut up in a room together for a day, they would both make money by swapping jack-knives. Something like this extraordinary feat is performed constantly in the business world of the present day. That is, money is made, and sometimes made rapidly and in large sums, by operations that are not in the transaction anything added to production and nothing to intrinsic values. Property and articles of trade change hands, by sale and purchase, with profit to the parties, while there is no change in the article bought and sold, or any of its surroundings. This might be just as effectively done by two, like the jack-knife trade, as by a larger number. This is the nature of what is called speculation. It always contemplates at least one party to the trade losing in the ring, and one who, while he ultimately participates in the previous profits, has no share in them, but supplies them at his own cost.

The fact is, and it is as immutable as the law of gravitation, that there can be no profit except by production. The railroad bar is worth just as much more than the iron ore it was made of, as the capital, skill and labor are worth that have been employed in producing it. If the material had been worked up into watch-springs, for the same reason it would have been worth much more. But, in spite of the first case and the greater profit in the second, measured by the production, by the development of a value, through the employment of capital and labor.

It has been said—and, in the broad application of the principle, it is a grand truth—that the man is a benefactor to his country, who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before, that is, who by judicious applications of science, skill and industry, doubles the productiveness of the land. This is what we understand by *developing resources*. It is bringing out minerals from the dark hiding places where they have lain for ages, it is transforming them into forms suitable for use, it is facilitating their interchange of their transportation, and extending them to new and useful purposes. And the same is true of animal and vegetable products, from their growth to their production.

But if instead of one man making two blades of grass grow where one only grew before, two men were to make a business of handling over the grass that grew on the one-blade scale of production, adding to its price by the operation, this would be what is called *speculation*. It is clear, that there can be no profit in the case till the article reaches hands outside of the speculating ring, and that is the hands of the consumer. He pays all the cost of production, that is, for the use of capital, skill and labor employed in producing and bringing the article to his hands. This is all right, so far. But, in addition to that, he pays all the profits made, along the process from first to last, by the mere swapping of jack-knives among the speculators. To the same extent, he pays and they receive money, that did nothing towards the production of the article nor in the slightest degree facilitated its transmission to a free and ready market, but rather hindered it.

It will be seen by our plain exhibition of the case, that the enriching process for the country is production, by developing the resources hitherto of no practical use or value. It will also be seen, that speculation, although it may make a vast display of business activity, and cause immense sums of money to change hands, adds nothing to the wealth of the country. But it may be asked, in the way of objection to these plain views, where do the attractions of the business lie and whence come the profits of speculation? One answer will suit both questions. The profits of the few come from the tribute imposed by speculation on the many. It is not an increase of wealth in the country, but simply a transfer of existing wealth from many hands to a few, when the operation is successful. The correctness of our views is equally evident from cases where speculations are unsuccessful. The party in whose hands the business is when the break down occurs is unable to pay, and the loss falls upon those anterior to him in the line. Had it been successful, those would have got their share of the profit; and the loss would then have fallen upon the consumers in the form of extra prices.

OLD AND NEW IDEA.

It is said that MR. JOHNSON, in view of the decisions, pronounced and expected, of the United States Supreme Court, "feels better;" in fact, encouraged in the prospect of the ultimate triumph of the doctrines of his policy. That the highest judicial tribunal in the land should, either by act or word, encourage ANDREW JOHNSON, and those lately in rebellion in such a hope, is something in view of which the thoughtful must may well feel alarmed. It places at once the question—shall the principles and ideas which, at the outset of the rebellion, animated the loyal men of the land to come to the rescue of the Republic, and which, as the bloody conflict went on, grew and expanded into vast proportions and became vitalized with new vigor, be held in abeyance—sacrificed—by any tribunal whatever, itself deriving its existence from the Supreme element in a Republic—the popular will, expressed and registered according to the prescribed forms? If we are to have a conflict of old and new ideas, we are confident that neither reverence for precedent, nor love for that which is ancient and honorable, will deter the nation from it. Nor can there be any doubt of the result. The law of progress will assert itself—and the growth of ideas can no more be repressed in their adaptation to government, than in the domain of science.

WHEAT SPECULATORS.

We have occasionally referred to the arbitrary system adopted by a ring of speculators in Chicago for controlling the price of wheat, and by consequence, all kinds of breadstuffs. The process pursued, we have already referred to. But we have a more minute description of it than we have seen, in a recent issue of the Chicago *Times*.

After declaring that they give false telegrams and erroneous information to the public, in order to affect the price, and that they lay embarrassments, when it suits them, in the way of farmers' getting their produce transported to the city, and that, when they get control of most of the wheat in the city, and have raised the price to the desired figure, the *Times* details the further operation thus:

"When they have carried it to the point they desire, they will not only sell the wheat they hold, but several hundred thousand bushels of wheat they do not hold, for which they will issue fraudulent warehouse receipts. And when they have sold, they will join in a hue and cry about the unsound condition of the grain in store, for the purpose of breaking down prices, when they will buy in, at low figures, the bogus receipts they sold at high figures."

This is a very plain exposure of the system. It is a huge and utterly unscrupulous monopoly that controls prices at that great center, and by a certain and in some measure excusable acquiescence of smaller dailies, controls it also throughout the country. It is a system of gambling, in wheat, just as much as that of the New York gold room was, in the precious metal. The *Times* is no favorite of ours, in its political utterances, but we cannot but admire the freedom and boldness of of its speech on this important subject. We know no reason to doubt the correctness of its statements. And if true, they show that every person who eats bread, is paying to these fancy gamesters of Chicago, a tribute equal probably to one-fifth the price of every morsel of bread that passes his lips.

COURTESY CRITICISED.

When CESAR saw "the well beloved BRUTUS" among the conspirators whose flashing daggers were seeking his life, he exclaimed in sorrow and despair, "et tu, Brute?"—and you too, Brute. A dull tyro, in Latin, once translated the phrase by words which would have been admirably adapted for the expression of JUDY'S temper, when aroused, towards her dear man MIKE—"and you too, you brute?"

The editor of the Richmond *Times*, haply blends the sad and tender emotion of CESAR and the more demonstrative and violent temper and tongue of Mistress DOUGHERTY, in his review of the late Congressional excursion to New Orleans. As a Professor of courtesy, he decides that the attentions and demonstrations, of that department, extended to these Congressional tourists and visitors, were, to say the least, *mal apropos*—pearls cast before swine. And he administers to the New Orleans people in general, and to General BEAUREGARD in especial, a severe and prolonged rebuke, in the Roman and Irish style referred to—the Irish rather predominating.

As a sample of the article, and as a proof of the amiable temper that pervades it, we give an extract, in which the BRUTUS and the brute are about equally prominent:

"We are informed that these wild, roaring, savage beasts of Ephesus were 'conciliated,' propitiated, and mollified, by the 'free, generous, hospitality and kindness with which they were everywhere treated.' Faugh! Is it the policy of the South to conciliate the lawless by flunkeyism, toasting and flattery? Are the people of the South to be humiliated by orders of Thad. Stevens to be toasted and *feted* by those whom they daily loathe and outrage? Are the people of the South grand jurors upon their knees and fawn upon Stevens and Wade? Are they to be cajoled into any concession for our courtesies, why not send a committee from each Southern capital to tender watches to the leaders of the Jacobin faction? Of the Radicals is what the South sought to conciliate, why not send a committee to President Johnson, swallow the 'Amendment,' and dismiss the trial of ex President Davis by the Military Court? Why not, in short, sedulously would be the propitiation of that grim and disgusting old Cannibal, Thad. Stevens, but we might try the effect of a 'mollifying and propitiating' committee upon him. A deputation of 'mollifiers' indeed, genius provided that old Tartar, wine him, dine him, ride him out in open carriages, make flattering speeches to him, and, by such puppy dog courtesies, disarm the loss of his iron work. If the rough old fellow could be thus 'mollified' do we think there is strong reason to hope for the regeneration of Steven's?"

CAR MANNERS.

We do not criticize car manners, but we claim the right, inherent in every free born American, to have our own thoughts about them—some of them in particular—and also our own fun from them. And we claim the right to share the latter with those of our friends who have any capacity for enjoying them.

The other day, when a portly, fine looking, elegantly dressed person entered. A gentleman instantly arose and the newcomer took the offered seat, while he stood hanging on the leather straps. In a little while the gentleman who sat next the grand lady left the car, which gave her an opportunity, by a little shake of the rustling drapery, to extend her apparent occupancy to the space that had been occupied by herself and another. The gentleman who had resigned his seat was still standing, though her senior, by some years, in age. Another gentleman sitting beside her gently suggested in an under tone that there was room for the standing gentleman to sit, when the grand lady decided the case beyond further consideration, by saying, with some resolution, "I don't like to be *scrounged*."

Increase in Rents—Pittsburgh Ahead.

Commissioner Wells, in his elaborate report, says: "The average advance in the rents of houses occupied by mechanics and laborers in the great manufacturing centers of the country, is estimated to have been about ninety per cent. In some sections, however, a much greater advance has been experienced, as, for example, at Pittsburgh, where two hundred per cent. and upwards is reported. In many of the rural districts, on the other hand, the advance has been much less; and in New England, where the manufacturing corporations are usually the proprietors of the tenements occupied by their operatives, little or no advance has been reported. In addition to the latter, where rents have not appreciated, the average rise in wages has been undoubtedly in excess of the advance in the price of commodities."

BOARD OF MILITARY CLAIMS.

Origin and History.

The Military Board was one of the necessities and creations of the rebellion. By limitation it would expire with the coming spring, but will probably be extended by act of the Legislature for another year. The large number of claims allowed during the year 1866, shows that the State is yet far from a complete release of all its obligations incurred during the war for military service. The annual report for 1866 to the Governor has not yet been printed, but through the kindness of Mr. Thomas Nicholson, Secretary of the Board and chief factotum of the Department, I am in possession of documents relating to 1866, and to its general history and operations, from which I compile a synoptical review of its doings since date of the act creating it.

Organization.

After a year of enlistments and commissioning of officers, claims for services rendered began to multiply so rapidly that the business of investigating them was found to over work and embarrass the Adjutant General's office. An independent Board, with exclusive jurisdiction of claims, was deemed advisable. An act of Assembly, approved April 16, 1862, declared that the Adjutant General, Quartermaster General and Commissary General should constitute it. The board has had special sessions as often as the Secretary had a sufficient amount of business ready for its action. Commissary General Irwin devoted his time to the inspection of claims as they were presented, until about six months ago, when the present efficient Secretary, Mr. Thomas Nicholson, was placed in charge of the work.

Nature of Claims.

Claims have been and may be made for subsistence, clothing, transportation, or organization of volunteers, under orders of authorized officers of the State, claims for pay of all Pennsylvania volunteers, of persons acting in the capacity of officers, from the time they commenced to recruit under the authority of the State, and of private from the date of their enlistment. Surgeons, Assistant Surgeons and Chaplains were also included in the act.

Routine.

Any two of the officers named constitute the Board, to whom all claims under the act are to be submitted, and, if found to conform to its provisions, and when approved by the Board, they report to the Auditor General, who reviews the same, and if satisfied with them, draws his warrant on the Treasurer for the amount. The vouchers necessary to establish a claim are: 1. Application, under oath in writing, of facts and dates, setting forth also that the claimant has not been dishonorably dismissed the service of the United States, that he has not at any time received or been promised any compensation for the service, from other sources, and that he will not seek such compensation. 2. A statement or bill of claim, in writing under oath, with dates, items and amounts, made out according to prescribed forms. 3. Certificate from the Governor, with date of muster. The acts of April, 1863, required all claims to be presented within two years thereafter, but the time was extended.

Circular of Instruction.

The Board published and widely circulated, in December, 1863, a circular of instruction, which urged claimants to apply directly to the Board and not to the claim agents, as their intervention was in no case necessary. The Board sought, how vainly many a soldier can tell to his cost, to break up the system of frauds perpetrated on Pennsylvania soldiers by certain claim agents engaged in the collection and purchase of claims. More than two hundred have been thereby defrauding the soldiers of large amounts, and bringing the State into discredit

Amount of Business Done.

I have before me the Annual Reports of this Board of the years of 1863, 1864, 1865 and some advance figures of 1866, not yet printed, and condense an abstract of the claims allowed.

1863.

	No.	Amount.
Amount of claims settled and paid		$ 48 631
" " pending		33,923
" " Under Instruction (being for		53,028
recruiting and organizing	107	097
Amount of claims for sane damages		29,248
" " Harrisburg Cemetery Association		1 881

1864.

Claims sent to Auditor General		$179,185
Allowed by Board		169,215
Difference		$ 18,134
Filed for adjudication, January 1, '64 to December 31		$102,691
Received but deficient in evidence		35 843
Total during the year		$138,408
Whole amount of claims to December 31, '64		$307,593
Balance unsettled January 1, '65		291,342

1865.

From January 1st, '65, to November 30, '65, 3,077 claims passed the board and were sent to the Auditor General, for its consideration		
Amount claimed		$267,350
Amount allowed		218 8 0
Difference		$33 441
Amount of filed and unsettled claims November 30, 1865, $103,180.		

1866

Amount of claims acted on for the year ending November 30 '66		$142,204
Amount allowed thereon		116,062
Difference		$26,141
Total amount claimed since organization of Board		720,758
Total amount allowed		603,215
Difference		$117,445

It will be seen that the sum of $127,445 has been actually saved to the Commonwealth, over the amount allowed by the Board in 1865. While the Board aimed to do full justice to claimants it has conscientiously exercised the full equity powers conferred by the act.

Reports.

The reports which I have been analyzing, embrace many thousand names including all nationalities, and the various military ranks, from private upwards. They show the wide extent to which the Commonwealth, and testify that when the nation is in danger from the malignity of treason or the intervention of foreign nations, every citizen is a soldier for its defense; that large and expensive bodies of military forces are not necessary for the security of our institutions or the development of America's future. They testify also to Government's paternal care of such as are called to encounter the dangers and endure the hardships of battle and the insalubrious camp. Every one of these names is a touching biography of dangers dared, sufferings endured, of patience, heroic fortitude, and deep devotion to the cause. Many of these claims are but mere contributions to the great volume of American history, whose bright pages have already quite obscured the glory of ancient renown.

MR. STEVENS'S IDEA ABOUT THE FINALITY OF THE AMENDMENT.

In the course of the debate in the House of Representatives on Monday night, Mr. STEVENS took substantially the same grounds so ably maintained by Gov. Curtin in his recent message. He said:

"Now, sir, what I mean by that was this: that there was a settled policy in this House of the idea, that when the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States should be adopted the States now in rebellion were to be admitted to their representation in this House. I say that was the policy that had been assumed in some of the States, and had been enunciated in their platforms. I knew it had been agreed upon, not only in the district of the gentleman (Mr. Spalding) but in other districts of Ohio, and the people there had been taught the doctrine that the Constitution which they had framed and proposed was the final action of Congress in regard to the admission of those States. In my judgment, a more pernicious heresy never was promulgated anywhere or by any party; and if I had stayed at home I would have raised the in flux from the South of all the unreconstructed rebels in the country. The Board sought, how vainly many a soldier can tell to his cost, to break up the system of frauds perpetrated on Pennsylvania soldiers by certain claim agents engaged in the collection and purchase of claims. More than two hundred have been thereby defrauding the soldiers of large amounts, and bringing the State into discredit

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What the London Times Thinks.

The London *Times* has a long article on "Revolutions in the United States," of which the following is the opening paragraph: "It would, perhaps, be premature to say that the overturning of the whole political fabric has undergo a complete change; but the more we hear of the proceedings of the current session of Congress, the more apparent is it that elements are at work which must speedily transform the constitution, unless their efforts are checked by the national opinion. The Republican party, flushed with victory and overwhelming in strength, hurries on to its ends without listening to a word of remonstrance. It is for the most part controlled and unscrupulous master of the situation. The minority, which passes for an opposition in the Senate and House of Representatives, is literally silenced. The power of the President is gone.

New York Dry Goods Trade.

A distressing case of accidental shooting occurred in New York on Thursday. A young man and a young woman were engaged in conversation, when the former pulled a revolver from his coat pocket, and pointing it at the recision of the girl, playfully remarked that he would shoot her, or something to that effect, when one of the chambers was discharged and the contents lodged in the girl's shoulder. She fell to the floor in a swoon, and at the same moment Estiey fell also, in a swoon, from which he did not recover for nearly an hour. When his consciousness returned he ventured to ask for Fanny, when one of the other girls who is employed on the premises thoughtlessly answered, "She is dead." Upon hearing these words he at once became a raving maniac, and so continued when last heard from.

CAR MANNERS.

We do not criticize car manners, but we claim the right, inherent in every free born American, to have our own thoughts about them—some of them in particular—and also our own fun from them. And we claim the right to share the latter with those of our friends who have any capacity for enjoying them.

The other day, when a portly, fine looking, elegantly dressed person entered. A gentleman instantly arose and the newcomer took the offered seat, while he stood hanging on the leather straps. In a little while the gentleman who sat next the grand lady left the car, which gave her an opportunity, by a little shake of the rustling drapery, to extend her apparent occupancy to the space that had been occupied by herself and another. The gentleman who had resigned his seat was still standing, though her senior, by some years, in age. Another gentleman sitting beside her gently suggested in an under tone that there was room for the standing gentleman to sit, when the grand lady decided the case beyond further consideration, by saying, with some resolution, "I don't like to be *scrounged*."

Increase in Rents—Pittsburgh Ahead.

Commissioner Wells, in his elaborate report, says: "The average advance in the rents of houses occupied by mechanics and laborers in the great manufacturing centers of the country, is estimated to have been about ninety per cent. In some sections, however, a much greater advance has been experienced, as, for example, at Pittsburgh, where two hundred per cent. and upwards is reported. In many of the rural districts, on the other hand, the advance has been much less; and in New England, where the manufacturing corporations are usually the proprietors of the tenements occupied by their operatives, little or no advance has been reported. In addition to the latter, where rents have not appreciated, the average rise in wages has been undoubtedly in excess of the advance in the price of commodities."

General Grant.

It turns out, as we suspected it would, that General GRANT has not much bing given his approval to the veto of the suffrage bill. Gen. Grant was present on Friday last when the message was read in Cabinet, but not being called on to express his views in reference to it, of course he said nothing about it. If the President had asked for his views he would have given them without reserve. When the Arkansas delegation called upon him, he told them to go home and adopt the Constitutional Amendment immediately, and after they had done that to pass a bill giving suffrage to all persons without regard to color. He has used similar language to others from the rebel States within the last six weeks.

Destruction of Property by Fire.

A distressing case of accidental shooting occurred in New York on Thursday. A young man and a young woman were engaged in conversation, when the former pulled a revolver from his coat pocket, and pointing it at the recision of the girl, playfully remarked that he would shoot her, or something to that effect, when one of the chambers was discharged and the contents lodged in the girl's shoulder. She fell to the floor in a swoon, and at the same moment Estiey fell also, in a swoon, from which he did not recover for nearly an hour. When his consciousness returned he ventured to ask for Fanny, when one of the other girls who is employed on the premises thoughtlessly answered, "She is dead." Upon hearing these words he at once became a raving maniac, and so continued when last heard from.

THE Charleston *Mercury* last week published a savage editorial comment upon Mr. Weatherby's mission in relation to the Constitutional Amendment, intimating that South Carolina had disgraced herself by being the first to retract her ordinance of secession and ratify the Constitutional Amendment abolishing slavery; that, while submission to the results of the war was inevitable, it was not becoming in the State, which had set the example of secession, to be the foremost in the disgusting compliance to the will of the victors.

A CHARLESTON, S. C., letter says: "Many of the sons of families formerly wealthy, and still full, the flo place of conductors on the cars, and seem rejoiced to obtain a paying occupation. The City Police force, too, is filled up in its political intricacies, but we cannot but admire the freedom and boldness of of its speech on this important subject. We know no reason to doubt the correctness of its statements. And if true, they show that every person who eats bread, is paying to these fancy gamesters of Chicago, a tribute equal probably to one-fifth the price of every morsel of bread that passes his lips.

THE population of New York State by the new census is 3,887,818, an increase of 361,602 from 1855, which is almost wholly in the commercial and manufacturing districts, the agricultural counties remaining nearly stationary, and seven of them showing an actual diminution. The public estimate is 97 per cent. of the whole population. The voters are 823,573, an increase of 170,351, or 26 per cent., mostly naturalized citizens. The negro population is steadily diminishing, while the number of Indians is on the increase.

PENNSYLVANIA WOOL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this Association, by order of the Executive Commitee, will be held in this city Wednesday morning next, at ten o'clock.

THE wool growers of Ohio have had a Convention at Columbus, and adopted a petition to Congress in favor of last winter's tariff and against the Wells report.

OUR HARRISBURG CORRESPONDENCE.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 7, 1867.

In his annual message submitted to the Legislature last week, Governor Curtin recommended a continuance of the state Military Agency at Washington. It has been found highly useful in aiding our State troops, by advice and assistance, in various ways. A glance at its doings for the past year may not be uninteresting to the readers of the COMMERCIAL. Although its duties are necessarily miscellaneous, the principal ones may be classified under the following heads:

Collection of Pay and Bounty.

The report of 1865 showed that 2,039 applications had been made for pay and bounty. Since then, 2,030 have been prepared and filed, making a total to December 15th, 1866, of 4,069 Of these 811 have been audited and certificates issued, or money paid, during the past year, as follows:

	No.	Amount.
To officers of deceased soldiers	208	$ 58 014
To fathers of deceased soldiers	255	69 915
To mothers of deceased soldiers	88	23 042
To widows of deceased soldiers	143	32 814
To brothers and sisters of dec. soldiers	29	7 185
Total	811	$177,472

Organization.

After a long delay caused by the crudeness and ambiguity of the act of Congress passed at the last session, equalizing bounties in certain cases, operations under it commenced in September. About 1,500 claims had been filed to date of report, and others are constantly being sent in.

Pensions.

Four hundred and forty applications for pensions have been prepared and filed during the past year. Allowed and certificates issued:

	Amount.
To widows	$27,900
To mothers	2,400
To invalids	15 000
27	$44,900

Collections by the Agency.

As a collecting Attorney for the soldiers of our State the agency has been especially useful. Four hundred and sixty-two certificates for pay, and bounty and pensions have been secured for soldiers and their representatives, and the money collected upon them, and paid over, amounting to $80,830, which is added to the amounts above stated, makes the total collections of the agency during the past year $311,703.

Increase of Pensions.

An act of Congress, approved June 6th, 1866, and an act approved the 25th of July, 1866, increased pensions to soldiers and widows in certain specified cases. Those commendable provisions of the law have added greatly to the labors of the Department. At the same time the effort has been to delay the issue of the pension certificates in many meritorious cases, as, to prevent duplicate certificates, the Bureau have determined to issue no more, in cases where the widows were entitled to the increase, until application for a blank shall be filed, when one certificate could be issued for the whole.

Delay in Settling Pensions.

Col. F. Jordan says he is constantly receiving complaints about delays in the settlement of claims for pension, and that in nearly all cases these delays are caused by the inability of the parties, or their friends, to make the proofs required by the Pension Bureau, especially where the soldier died of disease, and it became necessary to prove he contracted it in the service. It is quite often difficult to find witnesses in such cases. Parties who have been deceived, claim agents and attorneys frequently apply to the Bureau, forgetting that it is not allowed by the regulations of the Departments they publish communications to the public or to claimants or the agents who filed the claims. It is with the greatest difficulty that any aid can be rendered in such cases. Notwithstanding the continuance of the Pennsylvania Agency at Washington, for the past two years, the principal ones may be classified under the following heads:

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Increase of Pensions.

An act of Congress, approved June 6th,

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, January 12, 1867.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, January 7, 1867.

SENATE.

Petitions were presented for increased pay to army officers; against increased duty on steel; in favor of the tariff bill passed last session; against curtailment of national currency, &c.

Bills were introduced to protect the rights of married women; to amend the act providing for a temporary government for Idaho.

The bill suspending payment of moneys for enlisted slaves in Kentucky, Maryland, etc., until the commissioner's record is approved by Congress, was read three times and passed.

A joint resolution relative to the distribution of prize money was passed.

At ten o'clock the President's veto message was received and read. The Senate refused to postpone the consideration of the bill until to-morrow, and to print the bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Bills were introduced to establish a Territorial government for Indian Territory; to repeal the act reducing the city of Alexandria to the old Virginia line; to amend the act of 1862; granting lands to Kansas to aid in erecting a deaf and dumb asylum; to amend the act organizing the Territories of Arizona and New Mexico; authorizing the Secretary to sell all gold in the Treasury in excess of fifty millions, at discretion, with thirty days public notice. All were referred.

Mr. VAN of Missouri, introduced the following resolution to impeach the President:

Resolved, That it is the purpose of securing the fruits of the victories gained on the part of the republic during the late war waged to resist and trail its against the life of the nation, and of all who gave to it their the people as expressed at the polls during the recent elections by electing and ushering to the aggregate to more than 60,000 votes, it is the imperative duty of the House of Representatives, forthwith to take such and all such action as will accomplish the following objects:

First, the impeachment of the officer now exercising the functions pertaining to the office of President of the United States of America, and his removal from office upon conviction before the bar of the high crimes and misdemeanors of which he is now justly and legally guilty; and which render it unsafe for him to be permitted to discharge the powers he unlawfully assumed.

Second, To provide for the faithful and efficient administration of the Executive Department of the Government within the limits prescribed by law.

Third, To secure by the direct late work of legislation within the Constitutional limits all other and needful

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1867.

TERMS:

One copy per year.....$2 00
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One copy gratis, to the getter-up of the club.

REVISION OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE LAWS.

The almost universal verdict against the proposition to pay off the National Debt in the shortest time, affords strong ground for expecting that Congress, in the pursuit of another policy, will, at an early day, proceed to revise our system of Internal Taxation. The popular judgment does not recognize the wisdom of the speedy payment proposition by the Secretary of the Treasury, but that a longer period would be more in accord with sound policy, with reference both to the present and the future. It is certain that the present rate of taxation is oppressive—unnecessarily burdensome to the industry and enterprise of the country, and calculated to defeat the very object proposed. To pay off the debt in ten or twenty years would doubtless be gratifying to our national pride; but the endeavor would be liable to over-task our energies, prostrate enterprise and ruin our present resources. There is such a thing as undertaking too much—and this would be such an attempt. A lengthened period for paying the debt, and a system of comparatively moderate taxation, is manifestly the only wise policy. And this, we believe is the view which Congress will take of the question. Consequently we look for a revision and equalization of the internal taxes. No clear headed statesman can fail to perceive that something should be done to stimulate enterprise and keep labor employed,—otherwise the Treasury will be troubled for the means wherewith to meet its obligations. No system for paying the debt can be successful that does not do this—for it is from the products of labor and the profitable employment of capital that the debt is to be paid, and the expenses of the Government met.

We look, therefore, to the early action of Congress on this basis, and we have faith that the practical wisdom of the representatives of the people will be equal to the task before them.

SYSTEM IN RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION.

There is nothing like system. Backed by enterprise, it is able to accomplish wonders. A Committee of the Ohio Legislature is inspecting the system of *railroad freighting business*, as carried on and through that State. Some very curious developments have been made. Among them is one which we should suppose would be very interesting to stockholders in the roads, and to persons using the roads for the transportation of their products to market. From this it appears that the stockholders who furnish the road, and the shippers who supply the business, are both severely fleeced, for the profit of the officers who work and manage the roads.

The system for accomplishing this is represented as having several different methods embraced in it. In all, what are denominated freight companies, play a prominent part. These own about one quarter the cars of the railroad, and then, as the railroad cannot carry the freight for want of cars, the freight companies does it at such prices as is satisfactory to itself, and the profit is divided in such a way that only a small proportion goes to the stockholders, while shippers pay exorbitant prices. This is, of course, not known by stockholders in roads till it is developed by investigation. It is well observed by the Chicago *Tribune*, which has given a long article on the subject:

"The stockholders who pocket a beggarly three per cent every six months, perhaps know that other men do freight business over their roads that pays five hundred per cent per annum. Some coldwater Dutch farmer, when the express business barely covers expenses, operatives use the road and make a fortune. Stockholders do not *know*, perhaps, that the company never has cars to take freight at two dollars a hundred, but will transport John Smith's cars at the rate of forty cents a hundred—shifting the other sixty dollars collected per do they understand now it is that the company when does business by the million has dividends of hundreds, while millions' salaries ry the thousand roll up fortunes by the million."

Another method of making a penny by attention to system is, to buy all the coal or other products destined, by rail, to a market, and make all the profit, and let the stockholders, by transportation, but to themselves by trade, with this grand advantage in their favor, that having absolute control of transportation, they can fix the price low at the buying end, and fix it high at the selling end of the road, refusing transportation to those who will not sell to them at *their* price. Again, freights are, at intermediate points, turned off from their regular lines upon roads where the profits are divided with the parties at the point of divergence. This is said to be done, even when the shipper has made his contract and designated the line of transportation.

It is not the stockholders and shippers alone who feel the effects of this wonderful system. It adds materially to the cost of all articles of living that have to be moved long distances to reach their consumers. The charges for shipping, handling freight, &c., are added, along with several intermediate profits, to be paid ultimately by the person who makes the last purchase, and only article to cease to rise. It is this system which enriches a few persons, by raising the price of means of living to the millions of our country, and this too, without advantage or profit to the labor or capital invested in the production. The cost comes out of the producer, the railroad stockholder and the consumer, and goes to the profit of an accidental agency in the business. And by this means the railroad, designed and adopted to be a public benefit, by benefiting large classes, becomes a public oppressor, benefitting only its officials and employees, and imposing expense on millions of others.

FALSE IMPRISONMENT.

It is noticed, from time to time, that persons who have in some way got into limbo, and got out again, have sued for damages against public officers for false imprisonment, generally claiming damages to a formidable amount. The late insurrection, connected as it was with political sympathies, gave rise to suspicions and prejudicial measures which had never before been reckoned necessary in this country, among which rose the arrest and confinement of persons suspected of treasonable connection with the enemy. But it is not that class of imprisonments alone which has occasioned suits against officers. And it requires no more than the success of a few such cases, to multiply their number indefinitely, to the utter overthrow of the administration of justice.

The rights of liberty should be maintained, and the persons of citizens should be secure from restraint by the wanton exercise of power. This is true enough. But on the other hand, arrest and confinement, on reasonable suspicion, even anterior to formal investigation, are in many cases indispensable to the ends of justice. But if the officer, before he issues or executes a process for the arrest of a person, must so understand the case, the evidence, and all the contingencies of the trial, as to be sure of conviction, it is evident that the chances of the criminal actions committed would go unpunished. Such knowledge could not be obtained by public officers of the law, before trial; and if they were obnoxious to prosecution for false imprisonment, in cases of non-conviction, they would be shy of making any arrests at all.

Whether the sympathy expressed by many persons, in belief of criminals, have any influence in multiplying suits of the character referred to, we cannot determine. But it can hardly be doubted, that where the sympathies of political partisanship have any chance of being brought into requisition, by such suits, the opportunity will be readily seized, as a means of revenge upon faithful officers, for honestly discharging their duty. The consequence upon the administration of justice, it is not difficult to imagine. And it should be a very clear case of the abuse of power that should incur the award of damages.

PITTSBURGH is a most infelicitous locality, with respect to weather and all meteorological phenomena. In winter we have so many home made clouds hanging perpetually over the city, that we almost forget what sunshine is, before spring returns. And when the clouds of smoke are driven away, it is by a nothwest gale, and then it is so cold that the sunshine transiently let in, has no chance to cheer and warm us. Astronomers tell us we can have but five eclipses in the year. This is nonsense, to Pittsburgh, for we have more than that practically every week. Who has seen the sun for days, or the moon for months? And then the almanac eclipses—no account is made of them, for in the first place, we never see them, and, in the second, our daily darkness is deeper than a total eclipse of the sun, in the natural way, could produce.

INCREASE OF CRIME.

There cannot be a reasonable doubt entertained in any observing mind, that the cases of crime have been more numerous within a year or two past, than at any previous period of our history. We have not statistics to prove this, with reference to our own Commonwealth. But we notice that in the State of New York, the number of convicts in the State's prison has been increased by the extraordinary addition of 915 in one year. This is certainly frightful. And when we consider the usual disproportion between crimes and convictions, how alarming must the increase of crime be when the number of convictions for penitentiary offenses is so great and so much above the average of former years.

Various ways of accounting for this great increase have been exhibited, the war getting, of course, its full share of the blame. No doubt, many men suddenly relieved from the discipline of the army, and most of them with considerable sums of money in their pockets, have fallen into dissolute and criminal courses. The extraordinary influx of immigration has brought its contributions to the penitentiaries. A great number, too, of vagrants from the Southern States have in the most destitute condition, found their way into Northern States, and no doubt into places of punishment. But apart from all these, there is a class growing up in the country under influences and ideas well calculated to endanger their integrity and lead them into crime.

The extravagance that prevails in the mode of living and dressing, exposes thousands to temptations which all have not the strength to resist. It is an old doctrine, that luxury enfeebles a people. It does the same to individuals. Gratification of appetites, tastes and fancies, when habitual and unrestrained, enfeebles the judgment and conscience, for resistance; while it makes the craving for indulgence more imperious. To secure the means of gratification, crime is often resorted to. The passion for dress has led many a maid to steal from her mistress, and many a clerk, from his employer. And even worse crimes, and habitual vices of both sexes leading to ignominy and punishment, have been committed to obtain the means of gratifying vanity, lust and appetite.

THE commutation of the sentence of death that had been passed on the Fenians in Canada, to imprisonment for twenty years, settles the question and opens another, for while it is settled that the men will not be hung, it furnishes a question for eternal agitation—their unqualified release. Are you for the release of the Fenians? will become the question to put to all who want Fenian votes.

THE Chicago *Tribune*, one of the few leading journals advocating free trade, has favored us with an early copy of the report of Commissioner Wells. In publishing it, the *Tribune* takes occasion to commend the document and to express the belief "that it will be in the main sustained and indorsed by the country."

IN Illinois the Senatorial contest is becoming lively. The principal competitors are Senator TRUMBULL, Gen. PALMER, Gen. LOGAN, and Governor OGLESBY, all of whom, except TRUMBULL, who is daily expected, are on the ground.

MR. COMMISSIONER WELLS recommends the reduction of the duty on whisky to one dollar a gallon. Mr. GREELEY thinks it should be reduced to fifty cents. Both think the law should be more rigidly enforced. There all the troubles lies.

PERSONAL.

—James B. Campbell, lately chosen U. S. Senator from South Carolina, is a native of Oxford Mass., and is a descendant of the old Huguenot stock. The family have filled important positions in the neighborhood of Charleston for a century. Nearly the whole of Mr. Campbell's active life has been spent in South Carolina and he is now a leading lawyer in Charleston. Two of his sisters kept school at Springfield only a few years ago.

—Mr. James Lenox, of New York, is a very wealthy bachelor, and has a maiden sister almost equally wealthy. They are zealous members of the Old school Presbyterian Church and very liberal in their donations for denominational purposes. A New York paper says that some years ago they attempted church extension by building small but comfortable houses of worship in different sections of the city. They were small but respectable houses, with brick fronts and stained glass, good enough for fashionable churches. Though they charged no rent, yet the Lenoxes held the fee so that the houses could not be alienated from the worship of God. That plan was objected to by Grace Church. The population of New York and its style and fashion ran away from these churches. The congregation would not repair and bear silly excuse that did not belong to them. The result was that the bad beggars should not be choosers, would not do anything, and so the experiment smounted well nigh to a failure. Dr. Ritchie's congregation having been driven out by the encroachments of population down town, found a resting place in one of the Lenox churches on Madison avenue. They have succeeded in buying the house and will enlarge and beautify it. It was a hard struggle for the Lenoxes to abandon their plan and part with their house. The latter proposition they declined to follow, but received for the sale will be devoted strictly to the cause of religion.

—During the visit of Congressman to New Orleans three men sought an introduction to Ben. Wade, and stated to him that they were rebels, had been from the first, and intended to remain so. Senator Wade replied: "Well, gentlemen, I am happy to meet you, as you are the first rebels I have seen since the war closed, the balance of the Southern people claiming to be Union men. Now tell me, if you please, how did you three men manage to carry through such a dreadful war against the government, and keep it up for four long years by yourselves?" The rebuke was silently received by the rebels and the trio crowed.

—One of the "capitalists" who accompanied Sir Morton Peto and his financial party to this country, Mr. A. W. Rixon, has followed the cheerful example of his chief and of several others of the party, by going through bankruptcy. His debts are £10,000; his assets £4,000.

—The wife of Senator Sumner dispenses hospitalities at their new home in Washington with no stinted grace, and her female friends are talking about movements which may transfer her to the White House, or rather to the mansion which it is probable will be built for occupancy by the next Chief Executive officer of our nation.

—Admiral Tegethoff, whose arrival in New York has been announced, with an incorrect statement that he is a Russian officer, is a Vice-Admiral of the Austrian Navy, and will be remembered as the commander of the victorious fleet in the engagement off Lissa last summer. That battle, it is well known, was won simply by his personal audacity. A correspondent writes that Admiral Tegethoff is "the Farragut of Europe, middle aged, fine-looking, modest, speaks English perfectly, and has come over by order of the Emperor of Austria to look at our naval progress."

—General Spinner, Treasurer of the United States, while endeavoring to secure a little girl from injury by the pressure of the crowd at the President's reception on New Years, had his wallet taken from his pocket, containing between seventy and eighty dollars. A pair of gold spectacles, and a variety of papers, &c., of value to himself, were also taken from his pocket.

—Mrs. Burbell Cunningham, who was reported among those lost on the Evening Star, is at present residing in San Francisco, where she seven years ago married a gentleman named Hayes.

—General Grant has issued cards of invitation to a ball to be given at his residence on the 9th instant, and other persons in public and private life have announced in like manner their intention to contribute to the gayety of the winter.

—Professor Blackie of Edinburgh recently exercised himself from having made a silly statement by attempting to make the "blundering reports" responsible. The reporters held a meeting, compared notes, and addressed a letter to the Professor, who was obliged to retract. It is true that reporters sometimes make nonsense of speeches, but it oftener happens that they make speeches of nonsense.

—In a list of Cincinnati "solid men," in the *Times* of that city, the estate of N. Longworth heads the list at $12,000,000, then follow two at $5,000,000, nine at $2,000,000, nine at $1,500,000, thirty seven at $1,000,000, and forty-nine at $500,000. Jacob Strader's estate is put at $1,000,000; Miles Greenwood is marked $1,500,000; W. S. Groesbeck, $1,000,000; estate of Mr. Porter, of the *Commercial*, $5,000,000, &c., &c.

SHUTTING DOWN WELLS.—The low figures at which crude oil is now selling at the wells, has indused some of the companies in the oil regions to stop work. The Titusville *Herald* says: The Ocean Oil Company, owners of the Stephenson Farm, at Petroleum Center, on which there are some twenty or thirty productive wells, have shut down all their wells and discharged all their hands, coming to the conclusion that the oil is worth more under the ground than above it, at present prices. The Anderson Oil Company, at Petroleum Center, have decided to shut down unless they can bring their employees down to a much lower figure on their rates for labor than is now being paid. This company is one of the largest in that section, having in the neighborhood of twenty wells on the McClintock Farm. There are but two producing wells on Story Farm at present, and these are small ones.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

An Indianapolis dispatch says: During the year 1866 there were 223 applications for divorce in this county, of which 111 were granted, 26 dismissed, and 36 are now pending. One hundred and forty-two petitions were for desertion, and eighty-one from males. The proportion of divorces granted to marriage licenses issued are one to eight.

Pursuant to a recent order, issued by the English Government, the garrison of Dublin is laying in a large store of salt provisions, in apprehension, probably, of the city being cut off from supplies from the interior.

The Vicksburg *Herald* says that "the famous Davis's Bend cut-off has at length been made. The Mississippi river has thus been shortened eighteen miles. The chute is twenty-five miles below Vicksburg, on the Mississippi side. We have heard of one boat going through, but we have learned that the water is deep enough to permit all. The "Block House," erected by the Federals, has been washed away. The surrounding residences of Joe and Jeff. Davis are therefore on an island."

In the first nine months of 1866 the total number of letters from abroad, delivered by carriers in New York was 7,683,222 and of City letters, 2,595,567, which, with 1,109,709 deliveries must be added to the delivery of 1,008,778 newspapers. Between the 1st of January and the 30th of September there were taken and delivered from the letter boxes 9,609,646 letters.

The Lawrence, Mass., *American* says one of the principal corporations in that city have given notice of a reduction of pay of their employees of ten per cent., and that others will soon do the same. The reason given is the depression of market prices for goods, and of the manufacturing interest in general. A large number of factory people are already out of employment.

The prospects of a good wheat crop in Indiana next season are very favorable, the late snow having afforded full protection from the cold.

At a private party of yachtsmen on New Year's eve, bets on the great yacht race were settled to the amount of $150,000. In several instances odds had been given on the Henrietta; in others odds were held on the field against her. The Henrietta beat the time of the last Cunard steamer by a day and a half.

Deceased Chinese, it is announced, will be the chief articles of export from California when the new steamship line between San Francisco and China is in operation. The Celestials cannot bear to be buried in a foreign country.

The European Governments are still arming. France contracts to have 1,000 cannon ready for use by May next, and Russia has ordered one hundred cast steel cannon from the celebrated works of the Messrs. Krupp, at Essen. They are to be paid $14,000 for each. Bavaria, too, is arming, having ordered ninety-six rifled cannon from a Bohemian foundry.

The census of Chile was taken last April and has just been published. According to this census, the area of Chile is 132,000 square miles; the population is 2,084,945; the foreign resident in the country numbered 52,832, of which 14,000 inhabitants are from 100 to 140 years of age, and 9,636 are physically or mentally helpless.

CONGRESSIONAL EXCURSIONISTS.

Some Incidents by the Way.

The Congressional Excursion party have returned to Washington, probably some of them with more enlightened views of the state of the Southern country. The following incidents will serve to acquaint the reader with the character of the entertainments to which the excursionists were invited:

The New Orleans *Times* says—

"On the way down, at every station, quite considerable gatherings had assembled to witness the passing of the train. Numerous among them were the colored population, dressed in their holiday attire. At every stopping place in small villages there were exchanges between the people and the guests. 'Yes,' said Senator Lane to one, 'and what will that yoke do for us so hard bested, and I hope you'll also discover that we Radicals don't wear horns.'

"At Montgomery the party alighted, and here General Benton, General Wirt Adams, Mr. Henderson and others joined the train at the Exchange House. Due hospitable preparation for the arrival of his guests with well-filled tables, and Montgomery generally demonstrating by throwing open his entire house to the accommodation of the party. A dinner of venison, game, and delicacies thoroughly discussed, with gusto, toasts were in order, and General Bentegeat, the master spirit of the occasion, likely, before the day's settlement and adjourn, to propose a toast. Please fill your glasses. I propose as the first toast prosperity to our invited guests; they are welcome among us, and we are happy to eat our bread and salt with them.

"'Your President, Fowler replied:

"'LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—We have been so kindly greeted and so hospitably entertained since we left the capital, that my feeling of gratitude is now nearly exhausted. It is not easy to find words adequate to express the full manner to offer our thanks for your most generous hospitality. Through Virginia and Tennessee we were received with the same kind demonstrations, and now in Mississippi and when met by the colored people as follows: The Goodrich well is producing 200 bbls; the Tuttle well, 200 bbls; No. 8 well, 300 bbls; Pomroy well, 150 bbls; the "Comer & Thompson" well is testing; well No. 7 is being tubed; the Dorr & Blakeman well is testing and making a fine show. Eight more wells on this tract will be tested by the first of February.

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THE MILITIA OF THE COUNTRY.

An Important Bill Before Congress.

General Paine's bill for organizing the militia of the country is one of the most important of the present session. By its provisions all able bodied citizens are to be enrolled within sixty days after the passage of the act, and yearly thereafter. A national guard of two regiments of loyal volunteers from the militia is to be established in each Congressional District. A bureau of militia is to be established in the War Department, having at its head a Major General who shall be the commander of the militia, subject to the orders of the President and Secretary of War. The term of service is fixed at three years. The organization shall be the same as that of the regular army. The officers are to be elected in the manner commissioned by the Governors, who are to exercise all the authority over the national guard that is, by the Constitution, reserved to the States. The militia is to be called out by the President exercising authority. The Government is to arm and equip the troops, upon requisition and payment of the same by the States. In encampment—the number of days is as yet undetermined. On being called into actual service, the Government will supply the militia on the regular army. Congress is to have power to order the national guard into service to execute the laws of the United States, or to suppress insurrection in any State at the request of its Legislature. In case of war, Congress may order such a part of the national guard into service as is needed. All forms, parades, dress, &c., are to be according to the regulations of the regular army. Four schools of the national guard are to be established by Congress, with the same course as at West Point. Commissions in the army shall be granted only to graduates at West Point, or of these schools of the guard, or those who have served honorably, at least one year, in the militia or army.

OIL MATTERS AT TIDIOUTE.

Pittsburgh Operators in Luck—The Production of the Tidioute Regions Increasing.

The Tidioute correspondent of the Oil City *Register*, writing on the 23 inst., gives the following interesting intelligence from this comparatively new and productive portion of the oil regions of Pennsylvania:

The Limestone Oil Company, on the Economite tract, have three wells just started, and the prospects are remarkably good. A new well on the same tract, owned by Messrs. Holston & Co., is producing fifteen hundred barrels per day.

There are several new wells being tested on the Lot Allen tract, indications very flattering.

The "Stella" well, on lease No. 20, Captain Evans, commenced pumping on Monday with 250 bbl, and is pumping one hundred barrels per day.

The "Brooklyn" well, on lease No. 18, also under Captain Goodrich's management, is doing 200 barrels per day.

Well on lease No. 287, on the Triumph Oil Company property, owned by West & Boughton, is pumping 150 barrels daily.

Lease No. 289, owned principally by Solomon Shurey, of Tidioute, on the Orr farm, well is pumping 100 barrels.

A well on lease No. 24, owned by James O'Connor and Robert Finney, of Pittsburgh, is pumping 240 barrels per day.

A well on lease No. 1, owned by G. W. Woodworth, of Cleveland, is doing 200 barrels.

Well No. 258, owned by Mr. Bily of Pitnole, is doing 225 barrels per day, and is the "second best" well on the tract.

There are 27 wells on this tract now going down and are at present from 25 to 500 feet in depth, most of them, however, are down between 400 and 500 feet. A vein of water, one foot, the ball penetrating the cavity of my ear, struck. I feel, and I believe the pistol was pointed.

From the statements of Rosa, the daughter, it appears that Baltzebler came home in the hall, and went up stairs, and after a short time, the ball taking effect in the left shoulder, Mr. Streng, the wounded man, said: "My God, I am killed!" Rosa, the daughter, then inquired of her father what was the matter, and he replied that he was shot by Baltzebler. Rosa, the daughter, then went down stairs, and met Baltzebler coming up stairs, and he said to her, "I have killed your father, and I will kill you, too." Rosa, the daughter, then ran out of the house, and Baltzebler followed her, and when she got out of the house, Baltzebler ran back into the house, and went up stairs, and Rosa, the daughter, then went into the house and went up stairs; Baltzebler came into Rosa's room and kissed her; I went into the room and was playing at the piano, and heard reports of shots.

Rosa examined—Went to the house between four and five o'clock; the room in which Rosa was lying was up stairs; was down in the parlor about twenty minutes when I heard the shooting; when I left the room, the defendant was in the room talking to his wife; Rosa was lying in bed; was introduced to the defendant in the house, but had no conversation with him; Baltzebler did not appear to me while he seemed to be friendly; after I heard the shots I ran up stairs.

Mary Ann McGrath, sworn—I am engaged sewing in Mr. Streng's family; do not know anything in regard to the shooting; only that I heard the report of a pistol; was in the house at the time; after the shooting Baltzebler went out of the house. He came there upon several previous occasions to see his wife; they appeared to be very friendly to each other; after the shooting, Baltzebler ran out through the hall; some person got out of the house through the window, but I do not know who it was.

Cross-examined—There was no commotion in Mr. Streng's family on Thursday as I saw; the shooting took place about five o'clock.

Frank Campbell, sworn—Am a member of the Wright Police; arrested Baltzebler on Thursday evening. Was going along the North Common, about six o'clock, when I observed a man running down street in his barehead; some person hollered to stop him, but he had murdered a man; I went to arrest him (Baltzebler) when he drew the revolver and pointed it at me; he then withdrew it, and said he would surrender; I then, with the assistance of a citizen, brought him to the Mayor's office.

Cross-examined—When I arrested Baltzebler he seemed very much excited, and asked me to watch him. When I was taking him before the Mayor's office I found there was no cap on it; there was a wad in the chamber, and had two loads in it.

John Hamilton, sworn—Was called in to attend the wounded man, Mr. Streng; the ball entered about four inches from the center of the head, on the right side, and came out about the fifth ribs, and came out under the right arm pit, passing through pieces of the lung; the wound is dangerous, but not necessarily fatal; time alone will determine whether it will prove fatal or not; the conditions in which the wound could be expected this evening; the lung is contused, but probably not penetrated.

The following affidavit, sworn to by Mr. Henry Streng, was taken by Mayor Morrison, after the shooting, on Thursday last:

"This evening, January 3d, about half-past five o'clock, Jacob Baltzebler came into my house, shortly after which I heard the report of a pistol, and immediately ran up stairs, and I spraged my son-in-law, Robert Graves, when I was met by my daughter who was pursued by this defendant with a loaded pistol, two shots having been fired, when the third shot took effect, the ball penetrating the cavity of my ear, etc. I feel, and I believe the pistol was pointed, with murderous intent to kill.

"From the statements of Rosa, the daughter, it appears that Baltzebler came home in the hall, and went up stairs, and after a short time, the ball taking effect in the left shoulder, Mr. Streng, the wounded man, said: "My God, I am killed!" Rosa, the daughter, then inquired of her father what was the matter, and he replied that he was shot by Baltzebler. Rosa, the daughter, then went down stairs, and met Baltzebler coming up stairs, and he said to her, "I have killed your father, and I will kill you, too." Rosa, the daughter, then ran out of the house, and Baltzebler followed her, and when she got out of the house, Baltzebler ran back into the house, and went up stairs, and Rosa, the daughter, then went into the house and went up stairs; Baltzebler came into Rosa's room and kissed her; I went into the room and was playing at the piano, and heard reports of shots.

Rosa Streng, sworn—Am a son of Mr. Streng; was in the parlor of my father's house when I heard shooting. Baltzebler, the boy that came down shortly before the shooting occurred; was frightened, and jumped out of the door down the back steps. Baltzebler had a long stout with a pistol in his hand; he went up stairs. I was in the room when he entered; I spoke to him and he said he was shot; I left him and went to the hall and saw my sister in the room; did not like Baltzebler again. I have no more to say.

Simon Moses, sworn.—Heard the shooting on Thursday night. Went in Mr. Streng's house and went up stairs; Baltzebler came into Rosa's room and kissed her; I went into the room and was playing at the piano, and heard reports of shots.

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TRAGEDY IN ALLEGHENY.

A Discarded Husband Shoots His Wife and Father-in-Law—His Arrest and Examination Before the Mayor—Particulars of the Affair.

A terrible tragedy occurred at the residence of Mr. Henry Streng, on the corner of Buena Vista street and Taylor avenue, Allegheny, Ward, Allegheny, on Thursday evening, about half past five o'clock, in which Mr Streng was probably fatally, and Lis daughter Rosa, aged eighteen years, seriously injured, by shots fired from a revolver in the hands of Jacob Baltzebler, husband of the latter. The perpetrator was arrested and taken to the Allegheny lock up. The particulars of the terrible affair were brought out at the hearing last evening at the Mayor's office, before Mayor Morrison, when the following testimony was elicited:

Mrs. Esther Streng, sworn—Am the wife of Mr. Henry Streng; have a daughter, to which my daughter was lying in bed, on Tuesday last; defendant, when Baltzebler came in; he spoke to me pleasantly; he then went up stairs to see his mother; my daughter complained of her feet being cold and asked for a blanket; I got a blanket, when I went up and put it on her; but it around her feet; I told him it was not his place to come after my son-in-law came down, and in a short time I heard my daughter scream and jump out of bed; about the same time I heard a shot, and my daughter ran down stairs crying after my daughter; she fell and her father caught her; my husband caught the defendant in his arms, and Baltzebler put the pistol to my husband's breast; I saw the flash and heard the shot; my husband fell back; I then caught him; then the defendant pointed the pistol at me; I ran away and he ran out through the back door; I ran to the front door; I ran up and down the pavement in front of the house, and then they pursued me; I ran on him; I ran out screaming murder; do not know how he got out; my daughter fell and crept into the house; I saw the ball that was fired; he had threatened the whole family a few days before Christmas, saying he would injure us all in every way he could.

Cross examined.—He did not seem intoxicated; he came to the house; he inquired for my daughter immediately, and came right up to the room where she was lying; he then came in that I went down stairs; did not hear of a row; do not know that he and my wife had any words; they whispered together; it was about half an hour after he came before the first shot was fired; Mr. Streng is the room with his father-in-law; I believe came in; the defendant did not come before; he had not been alone at all with his wife before I left them last; Mr. Streng had just come home; he was in the room; Heard no words or noise before the alarm. Did not hear any quarrel; do not think God it is at all; the defendant is a very affectionate husband and wife will some time come round the domestic circle, but they come to the sober second thought that the whole family would be happy if they would let us forget and forgive and kiss each other; that is my opinion.

"But, ladies and gentlemen, there is a certain class of husbands and wives who, having made up their minds to do a thing, but you do wrong. Do no, my dear, twas you who were wrong. Now, dear, I'll never be separated. I therefore propose the health of the people of the United States—one people, united, great and superior, may they forever be separated.

"Pastor Lake also said:

"I feel that I have only time to thank you kindly (I mean the people of the South and Southwest) for the hospitalities tendered from the time that we passed the golden gate of the Tennessee mountains until now that we approach the last stage of the journey. Mr. Palmer of the Tennessee is proud to meet you as fellow citizens, of an empire prouder than any over which a Roman senator ever was aspot. "We are brethren, let there be no strife between us." Let us take to ourselves the olive branch, and the dove will come hitherward, and the magic strains of 'Yankee Doodle' and 'Dixie' intermingle their harmonies. Wherever the flag floats there is my home."

OIL MATTERS AT TIDIOUTE.

Pittsburgh Operators in Luck—The Production of the Tidioute Regions Increasing.

The Tidioute correspondent of the Oil City *Register*, writing on the 23 inst., gives the following interesting intelligence from this comparatively new and productive portion of the oil regions of Pennsylvania:

The Limestone Oil Company, on the Economite tract, have three wells just started, and the prospects are remarkably good. A new well on the same tract, owned by Messrs. Holston & Co., is producing fifteen hundred barrels per day.

There are several new wells being tested on the Lot Allen tract, indications very flattering.

The "Stella" well, on lease No. 20, Captain Evans, commenced pumping on Monday with 250 bbl, and is pumping one hundred barrels per day.

The "Brooklyn" well, on lease No. 18, also under Captain Goodrich's management, is doing 200 barrels per day.

Well on lease No. 287, on the Triumph Oil Company property, owned by West & Boughton, is pumping 150 barrels daily.

Lease No. 289, owned principally by Solomon Shurey, of Tidioute, on the Orr farm, well is pumping 100 barrels.

A well on lease No. 24, owned by James O'Connor and Robert Finney, of Pittsburgh, is pumping 240 barrels per day.

A well on lease No. 1, owned by G. W. Woodworth, of Cleveland, is doing 200 barrels.

Well No. 258, owned by Mr. Bily of Pitnole, is doing 225 barrels per day, and is the "second best" well on the tract.

There are 27 wells on this tract now going down and are at present from 25 to 500 feet in depth, most of them, however, are down between 400 and 500 feet. A vein of water, one foot, the ball penetrating the cavity of my ear, struck. I feel, and I believe the pistol was pointed.

From the statements of Rosa, the daughter, it appears that Baltzebler came home in the hall, which for its size is one of the most productive tracts in the neighborhood. The property consists of 8 acres, and they have eight wells now down, the yield of which is as follows: The Goodrich well is producing 200 bbls; the Tuttle well, 200 bbls; No. 8 well, 300 bbls; Pomroy well, 150 bbls; the "Comer & Thompson" well is testing; well No. 7 is being tubed; the Dorr & Blakeman well is testing and making a fine show. Eight more wells on this tract will be tested by the first of February.

An iron tank, capable of holding 13,000 barrels of oil is now building and will be finished about the middle of February. There is no difficulty now in getting oil from these wells to the river, as their oil is all conveyed through a large iron pipe, and will be liable to escape as through the smaller pipes.

FINANCES OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Auditor General's Report.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, January 1, 1867.

The Auditor General's Report for the fiscal year ending November 30, 1866, is now in the printer's hands and will be submitted in a few days. It shows the total receipts from December 1, 1865, to November 30 1866, both days inclusive, to have been $5 829 668. Balance on hand, November 30, 1865, $2,373,668; unavailable fund, $41 632; grand total receipts, $8,244 858. The sources of these receipts were: Land, $17,511; auction commissions, $21,778; auction duties, $71,853; tax on bank dividends, $28,946; on corporation stocks, $14,272. On stock per act of Febrary 23, 1866, $1,258 960; on real and personal estate, $879,343. Special tax of one half mill on the dollar per act of May 16, 1861, $919,258; tax on loans, $278 483; tax on net earnings, of income, $163,240; tax on gross receipts, $132,472; tax on enrollment of laws, $30 200; tax on tonnage, $401,741; commutation on tonnage tax, $260,000; on brokers and private bankers, $34,658; tax on writs, deeds, wills, etc., $76,217; tax on certain offices, $22,391; collateral inheritance tax, $281,726; tavern licenses, $257,462; retailers' licenses, $337,191; theaters, circuses, etc., $3 263; billiard rooms, $3,139; eating houses, $24,259; peddlers' licenses, $2,116; brokers' licenses, $7,887; patent medicines, $1,614; distilleries and breweries, $8,180; foreign insurance companies, $128,758; premium on charters, $8,023; pamphlet laws, $220; on loan, $50,271; Pennsylvania Railroad Company, $100,000; accrued interest, $24,660; right of way tunnels and forfeitures, fees of public offices, cases of conscience, $20,000; United States Government, $667,074.

Summary of the Payments

At the State Treasury from the first day of December, 1865, to the thirtieth day of November, 1866, both days inclusive:

Expenses of Government.....	$998,999 62
Military expenses, ordinary.....	37a 99
Military expenses, per special acts.....	191 974 61
Pensions and gratuities.....	164 538